

10/521675

DT01 Rec'd PCT/PTC 18 JAN 2005

In the claims:

Please amend claim 6 and insert new claim 8 as shown below.

1. (Previously presented) Immunoglobulin A polypeptide for diagnosing Diabetic retinopathy wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 and a peptide fragment of the polypeptide sequence SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Previously presented) The protein of claim 1 wherein the peptide fragment comprises peptide sequence SEQ ID NO: 2.
- 3-5. (Canceled).
6. (Currently amended) A method for diagnosing diabetic retinopathy, comprising:
 - a) treating the antibody against polypeptide of claim 1 or 2 with a blood sample and an peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase or biotin conjugated-anti-Immunoglobulin A protein; and
 - b) measuring optical density of the compound,
wherein diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed when the measured value represents optical density (ELISA value) lower than normal one.
7. (Canceled).
8. (New) A method for diagnosing diabetic retinopathy, comprising:

a) treating the antibody against polypeptide of claim 2 with a blood sample and an peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase or biotin conjugated-anti-Immunoglobulin A protein; and

b) measuring optical density of the compound,

wherein diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed when the measured value represents optical density (ELISA value) lower than normal one.